

ARIZONA SILVER BELT.

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THE MINING FIELD.

News from Every Quarter of Arizona.
General Mining Notes.

A SEASON OF GREAT ACTIVITY.

The incorporated mining companies of Cripple Creek, Colo., have paid over \$11,000,000 in dividends.

There is no United States duty on copper, tin or platinum. The duty on quicksilver is 7 cents per pound.

The Boston and Montana Copper company of Butte, Mont., is producing copper at the rate of 75,000,000 pounds annually.

John Duke, of Prescott, has purchased two mining claims in the Hot Springs Junction neighborhood for \$15,000, for which he paid cash.

T. J. Vandergrift, who recently secured an option on the Ora Plata mine, Mojave county, was in Kingman last week. Affairs will move smoothly and rapidly on the Ora Plata.

The telluride of nickel is reddish in color and is of rare occurrence. It is called melonite, named from the Melones mine, Calaveras county, Calif., where it was first discovered.

The Big Bug smelter, Yavapai county, has been unequal to the task of handling the ore received. A new water jacket has been added, however, thereby increasing somewhat the capacity of the plant.

A locator who forfeits his location by reason of failure to perform assessment work can recover nothing for work performed or improvements made from his successor who legally relocates the claim.

Frank Guerra, for some time superintendent of the King of Arizona mine, in Yuma county, has resigned his position. Mr. Guerra is a thorough miner, and it is most likely he has a better position in view than the one just vacated.

It is said that the Azurite mine has thus far shipped upwards of \$60,000 worth of copper bullion, and the ground has scarcely yet been scratched. This mine will some day become one of Arizona's great bullion producers.

The St. Louis Gold Refining company, engaged in cyaniding the tailings at the Mammoth mines are handling 240 tons daily. The Blaisdell cyanide tanks are also in operation, handling also a large amount of tailings, but are confined to those accumulating at present.

A scarcity of carpenters is reported at the Mammoth mines. Mention was made in these columns two weeks ago to the effect that miners were in demand at the Mammoth, owing to which mention too many have gone there. Others had better remain away.

The law of mining partnerships, as declared by the courts, or by the statutes of Idaho, does not entitle a mining partner to a lien on the produce of a mine for his share of the past products made by his partners while he was excluded from the property, as against a mortgage of the interests of such partners, although he will be entitled to his share of the product while the mine is operated by a receiver appointed in a suit to foreclose the mortgage.—G. V. B. Mining Co. vs. First National Bank (85 Federal Reporter, 36); U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

If a person goes upon the mineral lands of the United States and either establishes a settlement or works there on without complying with the requirements of the mining laws, and relies exclusively upon his possession or work, and a second party locates peaceably a mining claim covering a portion of the same ground, and in all respects complies with the requirements of the mining laws, then such second party is entitled to the possession of such mineral ground to the extent of his location as against the prior occupant, who is from the time said second party has perfected his location and complied with the law a trespasser. This is substantially the charge to the jury in *Horsewill vs. Ruiz*, 67 Cal., 111.

A telegram from Denver says that mining for gold under state direction for the benefit of the state treasury is the scheme submitted to Governor Thomas by Attorney-General Campbell. If successful the plan would solve two pressing problems. It would relieve the state of a financial stringency caused by a debt of more than \$3,000,000 and provide an opportunity for using convict labor without coming into competition with free labor. In Cripple Creek the state possesses valuable mining property. This property is controlled by the state land board, of which the governor is chairman. Mr. Campbell basing his prediction upon results obtained in sur-

rounding mines, thinks that the gold bearing strata can be reached by sinking from 600 to 1,000 feet. One hundred or more men from the state penitentiary could be employed in doing the work, which would thus be accomplished at a slight expense to the state.

The largest piece of gold ever unearthed anywhere, free from quartz, of which there is any record, was that taken out of the Byer & Haltman mine, Hill End, N. S. W., May 10, 1872. It was imbedded in a thick wall of blue slate 250 feet from the surface. It weighed 640 pounds, and was 57 inches long, 38 inches wide and averaged 4 inches in thickness. It was valued at \$148,800. The Welcome Stranger nugget was found on Mount Mollagel, Australia, February 9, 1869. It weighed 190 pounds and was valued at \$45,000. The Welcome nugget was found at Bakery Hill, Australia, June 9, 1859. It weighed 184 pounds 9 ounces and was valued at \$44,356. The nugget found August 18, 1899, in the Monumental quartz mine, twelve miles north of Downieville, Sierra county, Calif., was the largest piece of gold ever found in California up to that date. It weighed 1,142.25 ounces, or 85½ pounds, cleaned, and was worth \$21,156.52. It was found in decomposed quartz 25 feet from the surface.

Workings on the Planet Saturn mine, at Fool's gulch, Yavapai county, have attained a depth 1,008 feet, cutting a ledge 5 feet in width, ore from which is said to average \$20 in gold and several ounces in silver. The main shaft will be sunk another 1,000 feet. Burleigh drills, air compressors, and two new boilers have been ordered, says the Prescott Courier, and estimates are being made on piping enough water to the mine to run a 100-stamp mill. It will be remembered a Cornish roll mill was tried at this mine and was not satisfactory; stamps were put in, and 10 stamps are now being run on the ore with satisfactory results, but not steadily, as there is a shortage of water. The Planet Saturn concentrates 15 tons of ore into one. The mine is said to be located on the same ledge as the Congress, and shows up a great deal better than the Congress did at the same depth; \$350,000 has been expended in the development of this property, which is proof conclusive that it has passed the experimental stage as well as positive proof that our mines do go down.

In order that a vein may be followed extralaterally, identity throughout is essential, and the vein must be continuous; but the continuity may be interrupted, provided that the interruption does not prevent the tracing of the vein through the fissure as geologically identical. A charge by the court to a jury that veins are permanently separated, and cannot be followed as the same vein, when, in order to connect them it is necessary to pass through a considerable distance of rock showing no elements of the vein, where there are neither minerals, walls nor seams, is proper, as being practically a charge that the jury must reach a certain conclusion as to the continuity of the vein. Where the court, in a charge, has correctly defined a vein, and indicated that, in order that a vein be followed extralaterally it must be the identical vein throughout, it is not erroneous to place stress on the physical continuity and to neglect to charge as fully in regard to the other elements of identity, when no charge is requested.—Butte & Boston Mining Co. vs. Societe Anonyme Des Mines De Lexington (56 Pacific Reporter, 111); Supreme Court of Montana.

The reorganized company controlling the White Hills mine, Mohave county, is making preparation to sink a shaft 1,000 or 1,500 feet on the group of mines constituting the company's holdings. The gentlemen to inaugurate this undertaking are Messrs. Weston, Murphy and Stehr, well known mining men of Colorado, and who are thoroughly familiar with the ground they purpose exploiting. Speaking of this proposed undertaking, the Miner says: "The White Hills mines are the greatest silver producers in the west, having produced millions of ounces in silver since their discovery, seven years ago. The ores were phenomenally rich in both gold and silver. One carload of fourteen tons, as an instance, contained 29,000 ounces silver and 70 ounces gold. Many tons of ore running over 3,000 ounces in silver were shipped during the early days of the camp. Near the water line the usual leaching process is visible, but

where the chutes have been followed below that level the ores have been found as thoroughly mineralized as on the surface. The mines of the company are well situated for economical working through one main shaft, being in a compact body within a radius of 3,000 feet. The mineral bearing zone is about one mile wide from east to west and two miles in length. In isolated places the gold bearing veins of the Gold basin district, to the east, break through the lime cap of the upper range and pass into the northern part of the district."

Some time since a correspondent of the Prescott Prospect, signing himself "One of the Fools," pronounced the alleged platinum strike on Cataract creek a fake. Since that time much has been said about the new find, but nothing that would warrant one in disbelieving the views of the Prospect correspondent. Judge J. M. Sanford, of Williams, informs the Journal-Miner that "the excitement in that section over the discovery of platinum and aluminum continues unabated. Despite the efforts made in certain quarters to decry the existence of platinum and aluminum in paying quantities, representatives of the assaying firms which found the metal are the most persistent in trying to purchase. The fact that certain assayers have not been able to find the metal in the samples given them, can be readily accounted for and proves nothing as against the existence of the metal there." Judge Sanford says "owners of claims are not in the least disturbed by the attempt of certain knoockers to discredit the existence of the mineral in the claims, as their motives are well known and the metal cannot be extracted from the ledges by the simple denial of its existence by these parties." Meantime the Prospect says editorially: "On the whole, the matter looks decidedly fishy at present, but any of our readers may satisfy themselves by procuring some of the ore and having an assay made."

The El Paso News publishes the following interesting mining item: "J. W. Payne, one of the most prominent mining men in Arizona, and for a number of years general manager of the Grand Reef mine in Arivapai district, in Arizona, passed through this city. Mr. Payne closed a deal in New York, where he had been for the past month, and where he sold two of the nine claims of the Grand Reef property for \$400,000 to eastern capitalists. The Grand Reef is the property of John W. Mackay. A great deal of development work has been done on the property, which is gold, silver and copper, and although it is a low-grade proposition there are immense bodies of ore in sight." The Grand Reef is an old mine, having been worked during the early 80's by Jimmy Carr, who mined for silver alone and made a success, although he hauled the ore to Wilcox, 65 miles distant, and shipped over the Southern Pacific. Finally deeming the mine valueless, Mr. Carr permitted his title to lapse, and for a long time the property remained subject to relocation. Eventually Wilcox parties located the old workings, and about two years ago John W. Mackay purchased it, the consideration being \$40,000, since which time a great deal of development work has been accomplished, the workings having penetrated to a depth of over 500 feet. It is the model mining camp of the Pacific coast, and no doubt will prove a paying investment for the new purchasers.

It is often the case that the development of a prospect is more profitable than the working of a producing mine. To the experienced miner this is a self-evident proposition, so palpable that its repetition is superfluous, says the Mining Reporter. However, there are many of the uninitiated who are anxious, more than ever at this time, to become practically interested in the industry and who are unable to properly value the distinction or measure the various degrees of difference between a prospect and a mine. A prospect may be a hole of six feet or a shaft or tunnel of 100 feet into the ground. Either may be located upon a rich but undeveloped mineral vein. The discovery thus far may, as it often does, establish the fact that it is a valuable property. But owing to the fact that the expenditure of money and labor has been but a trifle, the property is offered for sale or it may be secured under bond and lease at a nominal price regardless of its possibilities of abundant treasure. It is this phase of the mining industry in Colorado, as elsewhere, which is especially presented at this time, when there is an inquiry and search on every hand for opportunities of mining investment and all descriptions of property are in demand. For the man of small money the prospect offers the safest investment; the opportunities are numerous and the field is wide-spread and inviting.—Mining Report.

According to geographies of half a century ago, the Argonauts entered the "Great American Desert" when they crossed the Missouri river on their lone journey toward the setting sun. The country was really a desert without life, save the wild beast and still wilder savages that were monarchs of all they surveyed, says the Western Mining World. There were no Omaha, no Council Bluffs, no Colorado, no Wyoming, no Idaho nor Nevada. The long trail from the Missouri to the Sacramento was unbroken by habitation or home, and no sound heard, save the midnight howl of prowling wolves and coyotes, and the low mutterings of a little band of religious fanatics who secluded themselves at Salt Lake—as they fancied—from the great outside world. This was but a few years ago, only fifty, a short time as measured by the phenomenally rapidly made history of the past few decades, but a long time when held beside the tardy, slowly passing events of the first half of the present century. The western hemisphere has made a brilliant run for its money during the last half. It has built five transcontinental railroads, that is, railroads upon which one may travel from the Pacific to the Atlantic with but a change or two. It has peopled a western empire in domain. It has built large, prosperous cities, and made a desert bloom and blossom as the rose. It has subdued the mountains and the vales, the forests and the plains. It has driven the red men into the arms of the government, and the wild beasts beyond the outposts of civilization. It has planted homes and hamlets, villages and towns, cities and metropolises and installed centers of industry where the echoes of the surrounding hills and mountains were awakened by prowling beast alone. And what made the change? Mines, prospectors and miners. The mines were concealed in the basin of the earth, the prospectors found them and the miners brought their treasures to light, and these are they who opened the west, peopled the west and caused the west to satiate the maw of avarice with gold. In a word, mines were in the west, prospectors hit their high places, and the delvers into the bowels of the earth did the rest. And all this has been done during the past fifty years. To one who feels rather than sees, the great change which the past few decades have wrought, it appears as a dream, not as a reality of which he is part. He is compelled to rub his eyes, catch his breath, and run it all over in his mind to realize he is in a land which has relegated savagery to the forgotten past and broadened the domain of a fast advancing, loftier and better civilization. The old-time miner and the present-day miner can each rejoice. While the one can look backward and note the changes which have been made since he has blazed the trails and worn the paths which now lead to thriving camps and communities, to town and cities and to hives of industry scattered throughout the west, the other can look forward to opportunities to better his condition, denied to those who lingered in the worn-out, threadbare haunts of their ancestors, and dream away in idleness an existence unenlivened, uncheered by the health-giving ozone of the western lofty, sky-scraping mountains. The old-timer lives his life over again and can find pleasure in the thought that he has led others to the feast he himself missed, while the partaker may, perchance, be preparing the way for others to enjoy a greater existence. Such is life in the far west.

Much has been said and written of late about the United Verde mine at Jerome, its probable output and its fabulously estimated worth. A sharp fight between the majority and minority stockholders sheds additional light on the greatest mine in the world. It was before a New York court, and the Tribune made the following report of the proceedings: "Atwater & Crickshank, attorneys for the United Verde Copper company, and also for United States Senator William A. Clark and other directors of the company, appeared before Justice Gildersleeve in the supreme court and opposed the continuance of a temporary injunction restraining the sale, on December 19, of the mining properties and works of the corporation. The copper company has its mines and works at Jerome, Arizona, and it is said to be the largest copper producer in the world. Counsel said that large dividends had been paid for many years, and the mine was never in a better financial condition than at present. The sale objected to by George A. Treadwell, a minority shareholder in the company and the plaintiff in the injunction suit, was merely a formal sale for the purpose of carrying out a scheme of reorganization agreed on by the directors and the majority shareholders of the corporation. The temporary injunction sought to be continued by Mr. Treadwell was obtained a week ago by him, and he also secured an

order directing Senator Clark and his brother directors to show cause why the injunction should not be made permanent. The company was capitalized with a stock of \$3,000,000, and the minority stockholders held only \$9,000 worth of shares. Henry C. Atwater, in opposing the continuance of the injunction, said that his clients held \$2,991,000 worth of the stock. The affidavits presented by his clients showed most conclusively that the charges made by the plaintiff, that Senator Clark and the other officers of the United Verde Copper company had formulated the plan of dissolving the corporation under the laws of this state and reincorporating under the laws of some other state for the purpose of getting the stock held by the plaintiff for less than it was worth, was without the slightest foundation. Counsel for the plaintiff maintained that the injunction should be continued, as the reorganization scheme was not in the interest of the stockholders, and there was no reason why the charter should be transferred from New York to West Virginia. Charles Demond, who, with Walter S. Logan, represented Mr. Treadwell, alleged that the property was worth at least \$100,000,000 and would bring that sum at a properly advertised sale. Senator Clark was, he alleged, since he secured practical control of the company, drawing from the earnings of the mine no less than \$299,000 a month, as the company was paying dividends which aggregated about \$7,000,000 a year. If the sale, as contemplated, went on, the property would not be likely to fetch more than \$3,000,000. Justice Gildersleeve asked Mr. Demond how many shares Mr. Treadwell held. "Seven hundred, your honor, which are now worth \$210,000." "What do you complain of?" inquired Justice Gildersleeve, "if you get the full value of your stock?" "That the sale has not been properly advertised, and that the notice of sale is too short. It should be advertised for six months. Senator Clark has at present absolute control over the terms of sale. The mine is the richest in the world, and the amount of ore is unlimited. We have affidavits from responsible persons, who will bid at least \$50,000,000 for the property." Justice Gildersleeve said he said that the charge of mismanagement, which had also been made, reminded him of a remark made by President Lincoln, when informed by a man that General Grant took too much whisky: "If you can tell me the brand I'll send a barrel apiece to all our generals." He then took the papers and reserved his decision.

Salvation Army Xmas Tree.

The Salvation Army, assisted by their friends, gave a very enjoyable Christmas tree entertainment at their hall last Saturday evening, which was largely attended. Presents were provided for some seventy children. The following excellent programme was rendered:

Christmas Carol Messrs. Soby and Williams, Mrs. Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Williams.
Prayer Mrs. Maggie Thomas
Scripture lesson Ensign Berry
Recitations Ollie Allen, Little Ruth Soby and Maud Ferguson.
Duet Jessie and David Sparks
Recitations Everett Soby, Robert Colson and Martha Patterson.
Christmas song Choir
Recitations Chester Soby, Ollie Vorman, Georgina Colson.
Song Six Girls
Recitation Addie Stroop
"Jolly Old St. Nicholas" Georgina Davidson
Advent of Santa Claus.
Christmas Carol Choir
Distribution of the presents.

Railroad Rumblings.

B. F. Hoyt, one of the proprietors of the Gilson ranch, is now the agent of the G. V. G. & N. railroad at Globe, having succeeded Mr. Hyel. Mr. Hoyt has many friends in Globe who congratulate him on his preferment. He brings to the office an experience of many years in a like capacity and in places on larger lines where business qualifications alone hold a job for a man. Mr. Hoyt is not only familiar with the work on this coast, but is thoroughly posted as to freight and passenger rates on the main Eastern lines. He was for a number of years the ticket agent at the Broadway office, Oakland, Cal., of the S. P. company. The business men of Globe will find Mr. Hoyt a pleasant man to do business with.

Cashier Hurt, of the G. V. G. & N., went down the line Saturday last paying off employees of the road. He took advantage of the trip and spent his Christmas with friends at Safford. He returned Tuesday night, and Wednesday paid the employees at this end of the line.

Superintendent B. Jones went down the line on business this morning. The railroad boys who went hunting last Sunday down near the narrows, bagged considerable game. They were Engineer Arkills, Machinist Kunz, Fire-

man Heala, Cashier Hurt, Section Foreman McIntyre, Teamster Adolph, L. W. and Fred Allum and Boiler-maker Thomas. The latter was the champion hunter, having in addition to killing considerable small game, killed two large wild cats, one of which he brought home. Mrs. Arkills and Mrs. McIntyre accompanied the party.

Past Agent Hyel and family left this morning for Oklahoma.

Pine Splinters.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

PINE, Dec. 18.—We had a light fall of snow this morning, the first this winter.

Pine is improving in buildings and new picket fences.

Fuellers' have moved into their new store.

Mr. John Hunt is very low with fever.

Mr. John A. Lowthian, of Strawberry, is very sick. He has been ailing for some time. Dr. J. B. Leonard is attending him and has been with him for several days.

Mr. Peach, of Strawberry, had a runaway the other day. The horses ran down a short grade between Pine and Strawberry, upsetting the wagon on top of him. He was bruised up some, but no bones broken.

Pine will have a dance and Christmas tree Christmas night.

There were two gentlemen from Jerome here last night. They had been out to look at some copper prospects near Payson, in which they are interested, and seemed pleased with them. They intend doing some work on them soon.

Millers' sawmill is grinding out some lumber now days.

Payson News.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

Merry Christmas to the SILVER BELT and to all its employees. May you long live and be a factor for many years yet to come.

Just think, Joe, only a few days more and the people of this age will be in the next century. [Our correspondent is slightly off in his calculation.] Of course this is speaking in the abstract, and your correspondent is going to get there. Had we been able to postpone the date of our birth and had taken advantage of such and used proper discretion, would it not have been possible that a few years hence we would either concur or not concur in the publication of "Looking Backward." Yet at this date we must yet hold ourselves obedient to Him on high. It is a question as to our destination, so, Joe, regardless of our future and in the sincere belief of meeting again, "here's how."

Pranty was in town a few days since.

Ed. Sawyer, of the Erie Company, is spending the week with us.

Prof. Tardy is here.

Our school has recess till after the holidays.

Prof. Robertson deserves great credit for the advancement he has made with the school children during the past six months. It is a first class advertisement in this district for a teacher to know that there has been no kick registered against him, and we must acknowledge that, so far, he is O. K.

There will be an entertainment given tomorrow (Monday) evening by the school children, afterwards a dance. We will write you fully the result of such in our next.

Kirk Marts, an old settler and stock raiser on Barnhart mountain on Rye, was in town a few days ago.

John Lowthian, of Strawberry, is very low. Dr. Leonard has been in attendance for the past ten days. Mr. Lowthian is an old resident of that section of the territory and has many friends, who hope that he will speedily recover from his present illness.

August Peiper received during the week a good supply of merchandise; also Hilligas.

An option of 60 days was taken on the Pranty-Gowan property, Gun creek, a few days ago, by Mr. Sandage. If this deal goes through it will include properties belonging to the Messrs. Azbills, Viette, Hines & Wentworth; also Mr. Sam A. Haught, who owns one-third interest in the Gun Creek and Red Elephant claims.

Parties are expected here in a day or so to make final examination of the Occidental mine. The Occidental is a property very well developed, having a shaft 200 feet deep with all necessary drifts and cross-cuts. This property is gold.

Frank Bissig is doing assessment work on the Grand Prize mine. So is Jack Livingston.

Hilligas opened up his stock of Tom and Jerry today, and in consequence your correspondent is jubilant, together with many others tonight. The censorship is rigid.

Latest style children's fex caps, just received, at Ladies Bazaar. Price only 45c, worth 75c.